

House Resolution 260

By: Representative Harbin of the 118th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Ryan Klesko on the occasion of his retirement from
2 Major League Baseball and inviting him to appear before the House of Representatives; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Ryan Klesko, All Star athlete and philanthropist, retired from the game of
5 baseball in 2008; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Klesko displayed his stellar athletic ability and baseball talent at an early
7 age with his selection for the United States Junior Olympic baseball team, representing the
8 nation magnificently in Australia and taking the first step of his lifelong career of
9 international acclaim; and

10 WHEREAS, drafted by the Atlanta Braves in 1989, Mr. Klesko battled his way through the
11 minor league system to make his debut in the majors in 1992; and

12 WHEREAS, in the Braves' 1995 World Series victory against the Cleveland Indians, Mr.
13 Klesko hit a home run in all three road games, posted a stunning .875 slugging average, and
14 was instrumental to the team's success as the starting first baseman; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Klesko played a proud ten years with the Atlanta Braves organization,
16 seven years with the San Diego Padres, and one year with the San Francisco Giants; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Klesko's community involvement and civic contributions are as impressive
18 as his many athletic achievements, founding the charitable organization the Blue Ryno
19 Foundation, which helps children affected by cancer and their families, and his dedicated
20 service to the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and

21 WHEREAS, as the owner of RK Properties and Holdings, Mr. Klesko is active in marketing,
22 developing, selling, creating conservation easements, and promoting land stewardship of
23 ranch and farm land in Georgia; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Klesko created Big K Farm where field trips, teacher workshops, and
25 legislative orientations are held to educate the public on the importance of land stewardship
26 and highlight working forests of Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, his great service to the principles of land conservation and farm investment with
28 Big K Farms was honored with the farm's recognition as the 2006 Georgia Tree Farm of the
29 Year award, and he developed the first forestry carbon offset project to be accepted on the
30 Georgia Carbon Registry; and

31 WHEREAS, Mr. Klesko has been united in love and marriage to his beautiful wife Kelly
32 since 2007, and the couple has been blessed with a delightful son; and

33 WHEREAS, through his unwavering generosity, compassion, and dedication to helping his
34 fellow man and his progressive, innovative, and ingenious approach to land stewardship, Mr.
35 Klesko serves as an extraordinary role model for our youth and is a shining example to all.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body join in commending Mr. Ryan Klesko for his invaluable
38 community involvement and thank him for his many contributions to Georgia.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mr. Ryan Klesko is hereby invited to appear before the
40 House of Representatives at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the House for
41 purposes of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate copy of this
42 resolution.